GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5715
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2001
SPRAYING OF PESTICIDES
PUTTASWAMY GOWDA;RUDRAGOUDA PATIL

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the spraying of pesticide called Endosulfan on the Cashew, crop along the South Canar-Kasaryod on Karnataka-Kerala border has caused different kinds of physical and mental impairments;

(b) if so, the factual position in this regard;

(c) the number of persons affected thereby; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to stop the use of this pesticide in the States of Kerala-Karnataka?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a)to(c): Sir, there are some reports/articles alleging that aerial spraying of Endosulfan pesticide on Cashew crop in Kerala has caused some health impairments. Government of Kerala have constituted an Expert Committee consisting of Scientists and Doctors to study the impact of aerial spraying of Endosulfan. The report of the Committee is awaited.

(d) Kerala Government, in the meantime, have issued orders stopping the aerial spraying of Endosulfan.